

REMARKS

No claims are being canceled. Claims 28-34 are being amended. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 23-25 and 28-34 will be pending in the application.

The amendments to claims 29-34 are supported by the specification at, for example, page 10, lines 7-8 (compounds "purified by HPLC or flash column chromatography").

The rejection of claims 29-34 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first and second paragraph.

The Office communication rejected claims 29-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 1 as allegedly not disclosed in the original specification. The Office communication also rejected claims 29-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, paragraph 2 as allegedly being indefinite. More specifically, the Examiner determined that the phrase "in isolated and substantially purified form" was new matter and further, that the terms were not properly defined by the claims or specification. Applicant has amended claims 29-34 to simply recite that the compounds are in purified form.

The rejection of claims 23, 24 and 28-34 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).

The Office communication also rejected claims 23, 24 and 28-34 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by a scientific paper by Mechoulam et al., *Identification of an Endogenous 2-Monoglyceride, Present in Canine Gut*, that Binds to Cannabinoid Receptors, *Biochemical Pharmacology*, vol. 50(1), pp. 83-90 ("Mechoulam"). Applicant first argues that claims 31 and 32 were improperly rejected under § 102 because they both depend from claim 27, rather than claim 28. Claim 27 was not rejected as anticipated by Mechoulam and does not recite 2-arachidonyl glycerol, the compound disclosed in the reference. Therefore, claims 31 and 32 as previously presented are allowable over Mechoulam as well.

Additionally, in response to the communication, Applicant has eliminated 2-arachidonyl glycerol from the recitation of claim 28 and claims 23-24 dependent therefrom. Since 2-arachidonyl glycerol was the only compound recited in the present

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claims that was disclosed by Mechoulam, independent claim 28 as amended is allowable over the reference. Consequently, claims 23, 24, 29-30 and 32-34 are allowable as dependent on an allowable claim.

The objection of claim 25 as dependent upon a rejected base claim.

The Office communication also objected to claim 25 as dependent on rejected base claim 28. For the reasons cited above, claim 28 as amended is allowable over the rejections presented in the communication. Consequently, claim 25 no longer depends from a rejected claim and the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw his objection.

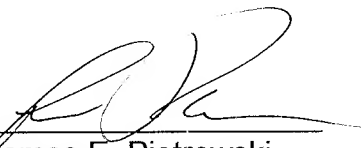
In summary, Applicants have addressed each of the rejections and objections within the present Office Action. It is believed the application now stands in condition for allowance, and prompt favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at 860.527.9211 if it is deemed that a telephone conversation will hasten prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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